ably; while in two or three places upon the epidermal skin of the lip, small ulcerous sores were formed The effect remained some four or five days and then gradually healed. The whole appearance was very much like a mild case of poisoning with *Rhus toxicodendron*.—A. H. Y., *LaFayette, Ind.*

COREOPSIS ARISTOSA, MICH.—It will be interesting to botanists to have published in the GAZETTE observations on the seeds and awns of *Coreopsis aristosa* from numerous localities, to ascertain if the awnless or upwardly or downwardly barbed awns are inherent in the species, or if their anomalous development is incidental and attributable to the introduction of Bidens in the species. Here where the species largely abounds the awnless with upwardly and downwardly barbed awns are relatively about equal in all the localities I have examined the past season, where *Bidens frondosa* is numerously mixed in with the growth, and also where no species of the genus now abounds, would seem to indicate that the trait is an inherent one. And thus invalidating the most important character separating the two genera. If the species is found to be normally awnless, as is quite probable, and the awns due to Bidens, the upward and downward barbs would still be a puzzle, unless it should turn out to be that both forms of barbs are common also to Bidens, which is already almost established in the case of *Coreopsis discoidea*, which is sometimes a perfect *Bidens frondosa* in all except the upwardly barbed awns. The allied species *Coreopsis trichosperma*, should also be examined for similar anomalies whereit abounds. The species is absent from this section. Observations are needed in localities where Bidens is absent, and in all habitats the relative proportion of the three forms should be noted.—E. HALL.

LATE FLOWERS.—I found the following list of plants still in flower on October 2d and 3d, in Exeter, R. I. It may possibly interest some western readers to see what are our late flowering eastern species. I have not classified the names, but have written them somewhat in the order in which the specimens were found. It will be noticed that some are early plants enjoying a second bloom:

Viola cucullata.
Gerardia purpurea.
" *quercifolia.*
Solidago linoides.
cæsia.
nemoralis.
elliptica.
odora.
Canadensis.
bicolor.
Aster corymbosus.
Novæ Angliæ.
lævis, var. *cyaneus.*
cordifolius.
longifolius.
Tradescanti.
multiflorus.
dumosus.
undulatus.
patens.
Gnaphalium polycephalum.
Antennaria margaritacea.
Hypericum Sarothra.
Œnothera biennis.
Lobelia cardinalis.
Trichostema dichotomum.
Brunella vulgaris.
Polygala cruciata.
" *sanguinea,*
" *verticillata.*
Linaria Canadensis.
vulgaris.
Pedicularis lanceolata.
(new to Rhode Island.)
Polygonum incarnatum.
" *dumetorum.*
" *articulatum.*
" *arifolium.*
Diplopappus linariifolius.
" *umbellatus.*
Spiranthes cernua.
Trifolium pratense.
arvense.
Potentilla argentea.
Nabalus Fraseri.
Hieracium Canadense.
" *venosum.*
Lepidium Virginicum.

Eupatorium pubescens.
" *perfoliatum.*
" *purpureum.*
Spiræa salicifolia.
Krigia Virginica.
Sisymbrium officinale.
Linum sulcatum.
Barbarea vulgaris.
Taraxacum Den-leonis.
Gentiana Andrewsii.

Out of bloom I noticed quantities of *Aletris farinosa, Hudsonia ericoides, Tephrosia Virginica, Ilex verticillata, Crataegus coccinea, Cephalanthus occidentalis, Ampelopsis quinquefolia, Cornus florida, Myrica cerifera, &c., &c.* This portion of our little State has not been explored, as evidenced by the fact that I found *Pedicularis lanceolata* in abundance by a road-side, although it is not recorded in our flora. In May and June the Callopogons, Pogonias and Habenarias are superb in Exeter. I hope to do more careful work there.—W. W. BAILEY.

NOMENCLATURE.—I desire to protest against the prevailing abuse of personal nomenclature. Botanical names are for all time, and even if it is of interest to us to know that Jones discovered a certain plant, future generations won't care a fig whether Tom, Dick or Harry first stumbled upon it. Possibly it may stimulate research somewhat, and the botanist who abuses it most may get more new plants thereby, but the work can be done just as well without it. The "holy fires of science in the human breast" cannot be perceptibly dampened by the removal of so selfish a motive. If the collector feels that he must write his name in imperishable letters, let him get a mallet and chisel and hie him to the Pyramids, Give us a name expressive of some salient peculiarity or of locality or range, but don't, *don't* call it Smithia Brownii! If the abuse goes on much longer, I verily believe that, before the final hardening of Descriptive Botany, the great majority of personal names will be expunged.—D.

BOTRYCHIUM LUNAROIDES VAR. OBLIQUUM.—In February number, 1877, notice is taken of *Botrychium Virginianum* with forking spikes. My son, Master George C. Spence, found a *B. lunaroides* var. *obliquum* with *two* distinct and entirely disconnected fertile spikes. There was no sacrifice or stinting of parts to produce this extra fruitage, but on the contrary the effort was followed by an unusual development of beauty and vigor in the plant proper, as the main spike, starting from the usual point, reached the height of fourteen inches, with a fruitage of five and one-half inches inclusive. The extra spike grew on the petiole of the frond, two inches from base of the frond and one inch from main spike. This was nine inches high, with two inches of fruit as large and well developed as is usual in the ordinary plant. There was nothing whatever to indicate that injury to the plant was the cause of this very unusual development.—MRS. E. J. SPENCE.

VARIATIONS.—Last spring I found a double flowering Claytonia; a *Uvularia grandiflora* with 8 petals, 8 stamens, 4 stigmas, and a 4-celled ovary; a tulip (in the garden) with 8 petals, 8 stamens and 8 stigmas; a tulip with 8 petals, 12 stamens, 3 of them united to the ovary, which was imperfectly 4-celled; another tulip with 7 petals, 7 stamens and 3 stigmas, and still another with 5 petals, 7 stamens and 3 stigmas; also a *Viola cucullata*, the blue flowers of which were beautifully striped with white. I have some of them in my garden.—A. HUBRECHTSE.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.—*American Journal of Science and Arts*, February.—Sereno Watson gives a synopsis of the North American species of *Populus*, and has requested that notes on any species of Populus, with specimens, be sent to the Herbarium of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. It will be a benefit to science for all who have such notes or specimens to comply with this request, for by this means Mr. Watson will be able to place the species of this difficult genus upon surer foundation than ever before. "Specimens may be sent by mail fresh from the tree, without the trouble of